

Application No. 09/854,474  
Response dated December 23, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of October 1, 2003

**REMARKS**

Claims 30-38, which have been added in this Amendment, are pending in this application.

The basis of claim 30 is found at original claim 15,  
the basis of claim 31 is found at original claim 16,  
the basis of claim 32 is found at original claim 19,  
the basis of claim 33 is found at original claim 17,  
the basis of claim 34 is found at original claim 14,  
the basis of claim 35 is found at original claim 18,  
the basis of claim 36 is found at original claim 20,  
the basis of claim 37 is found at original claim 21, and  
the basis of claim 38 is found at original claim 22.

Original claims 15-17 and 19 were found to be allowable subject matter. Claims 15, 16 and 19 have been rewritten into independent claims 30-32, respectively. Claim 17 has been rewritten into dependent claim 33 on claim 31. Also, claims 34-38 are dependent on any of claims 30-33.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 30-38, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

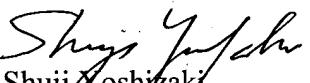
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If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case. The limited Recognition of the agent is attached.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

  
Shuji Oshizaki  
Patent Agent  
Limited Recognition

Attachment: Limited Recognition

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